TION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Panel on admissions in private professional institutions

1149. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up a Panel to frame guidelines for admission and fees for private professional institutions; and

(b) if so, what are the terms of reference thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) The Supreme Court in their judgement of 4-2-1993 in Unnikrishnan case has evolved a Scheme for regulating admissions and fee structure in Private Professional Institutions. The Regulations to be issued by the All India Council for Technical Educations (AICTE) pertaining to technical education depend upon the final approval by the Government to the the Draft Guidelines already framed by Department of Education.

Functioning of new Navodaya Vidyalayas

1150. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report which appeared in the Indian Express of 26th August, 1993 captioned "Navodaya Schools dream turns Sour";

(b) if so, whether Government have assessed the success so for achieved in the implementation of the "Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya's" scheme in different states in the light of this report; if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) what further steps and projects are contemplated for providing such vidyalayas to districts where none has been set up so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Press Report related to the cases of death of Navodaya Vidyalaya students that occurred in different schools due to various causes. While the Report has referred to the Navodaya Vidyalaya scheme as an experiment that has worked well and popular with the State Governments, it has also highlighted the laxity in the care and custody of the children by the school authorities. Government are deeply concerned about such incidents of death of students. The following measures are being taken to strengthen implementation of the scheme as a result of an internal review:—

—Setting up in-service training arrangements for teachers directly by the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti.

—Each school to be subjected to detailed inspection every year by a panel of 3 independent educationists and follow-up action.

—Construction programme of permanent school buildings to be strengthened by positioning qualified and experienced Engineers at Headquarters and Regional Offices.

—New Regional Office at Patna being set up to ease the workload in this region and facilitate effective monitoring, inspection and control of schools.

—Recruitment Rules for teaching and non-teaching staff being reviewed/revised in the light of experience of shortcomings.

—Computerised management system to be set up to improve monitoring.

—Auditing of schools proposed through engaging professional auditors in addition to Comptroller and Auditor General Audit.

—Norms of annual expenditure per student enhanced from Rs. 3500 to Rs. 5000.

—Complaint about harassment of students or neglect by principals or teachers given immediate personal attention by the Director.

(c) The Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti has envisaged setting up of one Vidyalaya on an average in each district and so for 339 Vidyalayas have been sanctioned/ opened in 30 States/Union Territories.

Preservation of relics of Mahatma Gandhi at National Gandhi Museum

1151. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that irreplaceable and priceless relics of Mahatma Gandhi at the National Gandhi Museum have been decaying and that his famous spectacles have been missing since long;;

(b) if so whether Government have made any inquiry into the gross lapses in the scientific preservation of the relics and mismanagement of the National Gandhi Museum;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) As per information furnished by the Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalaya Samiti, the report relating to the relics of Mahatma Gandhi is exaggerated.

(b) to (d) The National Gandhi Museum is administered by a non-Governmental and private Trust known as the Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalaya Samiti. The Governing Body have been requested to take appropriate action. This Ministry has offered full support and cooperation.

Demand of Granite Exporters

1152. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the granite exporters have demanded a national mineral policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether granite exporters have also demanded that the liberalisation benefits be extended to the mining sector; and

(d) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take in this behalf with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM YADAV): (a) to (d) The New Mineral Policy which was laid in Parliament on 5-3-1993 is applicable to granite also. Granite exporters can avail of benefit of the new liberalised policies of the Government, which have been announced from the to time, in as much as these policies are applicable to them.

Kolar Gold Mines

1153. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kolar Gold Mines are virually exhausted after a century of Mining and it no longer economically viable to work in these mines;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the GSI has located gold mines in other areas but these are not being commercially exploited yet: and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;